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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**SANITARY CONDITION**  
OF THE  
**Crowle Urban District**  
For the Year 1915,

BY  
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# Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition — OF THE — Crowthorne Urban District for the Year 1915.

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Second Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition of your District for the year ending December 31st, 1915, together with the Tables of Infectious Diseases, Sickness, and Mortality, as required by the Local Government Board.

The unique feature of last year's report, when out of 75 births we had not a single death, I am sorry to say has not been repeated, as this year we have had 2 deaths under one year.

## Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Urban District is a low level tract.

The area of the census the last time of taking was 6,926 acres of land with 52 acres of inland water.

## Social Conditions.

The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agricultural and retail trade.

At the present time there is one brewery, a rope manufactory, and peat works employing local labour.

Compared with last year, this shows that the brick works and one brewery have been closed.

## Population.

The population of the District, as estimated by Somerset House, is 2,853.

## Vital Statistics.

There were 73 births (43 males and 30 females) registered in the District during the year, this being 2 less than last year, and giving a birth rate of 25·57 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 26·12 last year. Of these 6 were illegitimate, being one more than last year, and giving the rate per 1000 as 82·19, as compared with 66·6 last year. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 22·84

## Deaths.

The total number registered in the District during 1915 was 31, being 4 more than last year, when there were 27. This is equal to a mortality rate of 10·86 per 1000 of the population, as compared with 9·37 last year.

There were 6 deaths not registered in the District. This gives a corrected mortality of 12·96 per 1000, as compared with 10·75 for last year. The death rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 14·0.

No death occurred which was not registered.

The natural increase of the population during the year, i.e., excess of births over deaths, was 36, as compared with 44 last year.

### Inquests.

There were two deaths from suicide—one from hanging and the other from jumping in front of a train at Goole.

### Infantile Mortality.

Two deaths took place under one year of age, one from Meningitis and the other from Pneumonia. This gives a death rate, under a year, of 27.39 per 1000 births.

The County Infantile death rate for 1914 was 88.85. This compares very well indeed.

### Zymotic Mortality.

There have been no deaths in the District from Zymotic diseases.

### Tuberculosis.

There has been one death from Tubercular Peritonitis, and that a girl aged 9 years.

There has been no deaths from Phthisis.

### Infectious Diseases.

The following 17 infectious cases have been reported during the year:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	7.
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	1.
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1.
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	7.

There has been no case of Diphtheria reported during the year. I recommend that in all cases of suspicious throats the Diphtheria Serum be given at once, and not wait to see whether it develops Diphtheria, or not. Precaution is better than delay.

Of the 7 cases of Scarlet Fever 4 of them were in one house. The houses are disinfected by burning Formalin.

Of the 7 other forms of Tuberculosis, 3 were of the glands of the neck, 1 of the spine, 1 of the hip joint, 1 of the thigh, and 1 of the elbow.

### Other Causes of Deaths.

	In 1915.		In 1914.
Cancer	...	5	2
Heart Disease	...	5	2
Bronchitis	...	2	2
Pneumonia	...	4	6
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	2	...	0
Meningitis	...	1	1
Tubercular Disease	...	1	1
Rheumatic Fever	...	1	0
Nephritis	...	1	0
Suicide	...	2	0
Bronchitis Asthma	...	1	0
Other defined Diseases	12		

### Corrected Deaths.

The total table of the corrected deaths in Crowle, for 1915, is as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	2 or	5·4 % of the deaths.
Between 2 and 5 years	...	1 or	2·7 %	„ „ „
„ 5 „ 15 „	...	2 or	5·4 %	„ „ „
„ 15 „ 25 „	...	1 or	2·7 %	„ „ „
„ 25 „ 45 „	...	7 or	18·9 %	„ „ „
„ 45 „ 65 „	...	7 or	18·9 %	„ „ „
Over 65 years	...	17 or	45·9 %	„ „ „

### Crèche.

During the year a Crèche was started under the superintendence of Nurse Clarke. It was continued during the potatoe harvest time, and was found to be quite successful—as many as 26 children having been kept there in a day. Towards the end it was found to be practically self-supporting. It was intended to establish a permanent Creche, but under the circumstances created by the war, the object for the time being has lapsed. It is proposed, however, as soon as possible, to establish the scheme.

### Schools.

There are three schools in the District. and these have been periodically visited during the year. In all of the schools the heating, lighting, and ventilation arrangements were found satisfactory.

### Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1889.

There are 25 on the Register. These have been inspected once every two months. There are 61 milch cows registered in the District. There is no arrangement for Veterinary inspection of cows.

In all, 118 inspections were made during the year, and the general condition of the cowsheds and premises was good.

### Slaughter Houses.

There are 7 on the Register. Eighty-four inspections have been made. There have been no contraventions of bye-laws, and there were not any defects to be remedied, all being in a clean condition. No cause of illness suspected to be due to food poisoning came to my knowledge. No seizure of unsound meat was made during the year, and not any samples were taken for examination under the Food and Drugs Act.

### Bake Houses.

There are 5 in the District—not any underground. Sixty inspections have been made, and not any contraventions of the Factory Acts were found.

### Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, Sect. 132.

There are 20 Registered Workshops, which were inspected periodically during the year, and found in a satisfactory condition.

### Common Lodging Houses.

There are two registered under the bye-laws. Twenty-two inspections have been made. There were no contraventions of these laws.

## Offensive Trades.

There are not any in the District.

## Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No system of sewerage exists in the District. The only public drainage is for surface water.

## Scavenging

Is carried on by the Council under the supervision of the Inspector of Nuisances. The privy and ashpit manure is carted away regularly and put on the land, quite away from any habitation. About 83 sanitary pans are emptied and removed weekly.

## Tip.

During the year the Council have carted the house refuse and rubbish other than excrement to the Tip purchased for this purpose.

## Closet Accommodation.

There are 4 houses with privy vaults. Eighty-three houses have pail closets in the District. Six have pail closets substituted for privy vaults. Five houses have water closets. All are in a good clean state.

## Water Supply.

The houses are supplied by private wells. The water is hard. I advise that large rain water tanks should be supplied to houses now scarce of water. All new houses are required to have cisterns.

## Housing.

Two new houses have been built during the year. House inspection has been carried on in an efficient manner. One hundred and seventy inspections have been made under the Housing and Town Planning Act. In 138 cases defects were found and notices duly served. In 62 cases the defects were remedied. The remaining 76 are having attention.

## The Notification of Births Act.

The above is carried on in the same way as it was before the Act became general, Crowle having adopted the Act two years ago and carried it out successfully, and with benefit to the town.

## Bye-Laws.

The following are in force in the District:—

Regulation of Common Lodging Houses, under Section 80.

For New Streets and Buildings under Sect. 157.

For Regulation of Slaughter Houses under Sect. 160.

Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885,  
Art. 13.

Canal Boats are Registered in pursuance of the Canal Boats Act.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. H. M. ALEXANDER,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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